

How do you build a clean, efficient fire?

- Upgrade to an EPA-certified burning device and make sure that the device is ash-free
- Use split hardwoods aged six months; they are the best to burn
- A “top burn” method is highly recommended for an efficient burn, which places the largest pieces of wood at the bottom in a criss-cross fashion and then alternates with smaller pieces.



This “top burn” style makes a clean and efficient fire



Town of Huntington

Frank P. Petrone
Supervisor

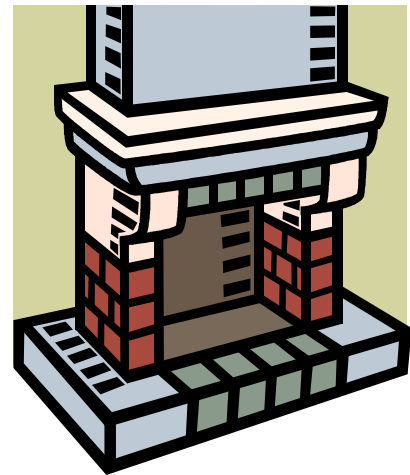
Mark Cuthbertson
Councilman

Susan A. Berland
Councilwoman

Mark Mayoka
Councilman

Eugene Cook
Councilman

<http://www.huntingtonny.gov>



A Guide to Woodburning

How to safely use coal and wood burning devices

Councilwoman Susan A. Berland
Town of Huntington
100 Main Street
Huntington, NY 11743
(631) 351-3173
sberland@huntingtonny.gov



The Town of Huntington encourages the proper use of wood and coal burning devices. If used improperly, the burning of solid waste can have devastating effects on the environment as well as one's well being. Therefore, it is vital that Huntington residents follow the Town Code to ensure the health and safety of all the residents of our community. This brochure will help residents properly use wood and coal-burning devices.

What devices are considered safe wood burning appliances?

- An EPA certified wood heater, wood stove, pellet-fueled wood heater or coal stove
- A fireplace constructed in compliance with the Building Code of the State of New York
- Outdoor fireplaces not attached to any other structure
- Listed wood burning appliances which are primarily used for the preparation of food (Section 196-6)

Are permits required for a fireplace, wood or coal burning appliance? Yes....according to the Town Code:

"No person shall install, alter, rebuild or relocate a fireplace, wood or coal burning appliance or pellet fueled wood heater without having first obtained a building permit and having submitted documentation to the Town of Huntington Department of Engineering Services demonstrating the listing of the fireplace, wood or coal burning appliance or pellet fueled wood heater." (Section 196-7)

What are the dangers of wood smoke?

- Wood smoke contains over 100 different chemicals including carbon monoxide, methane, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxides and more
- Wood smoke is 12 times more carcinogenic than equal amounts of tobacco smoke
- Fireplaces and woodstoves are the origin of 35% of fine-particle pollution in the nation
- Air pollutants cause immune system damage, asthma, allergies, auto-immune damage, damage to the nervous system and to developing fetuses
- Air pollution can cause heart disease and can accelerate vascular inflammation and arteriosclerosis

What items are hazardous when burned?

- Garbage
- Treated wood
- Plastic products
- Rubber products
- Waste petroleum products
- Paints and paint solvents
- Glossy or colored paper
- Particle board
- Saltwater driftwood
- Animal carcasses
- Any other material not intended by a manufacturer for use in a wood-burning appliance. (Section 196-8)

What is Solid Fuel?

"Wood, wood pellet or any other non-gaseous or non-liquid fuel, which is utilized in a fireplace or listed pellet heater or wood stove" (Section 192-2)

What are the unlawful ways to burn any solid fuel?

- "...In such a way as to create or cause the emission of noxious or offensive odors, dense smoke, or in such a way as to create a private or public nuisance"
- "Within or upon any premises except for the burning of solid fuel in listed wood or coal burning appliances, pellet fueled wood heaters, fireplaces or as otherwise provided"
- "No person shall burn any solid fuel in violation of any Chapter of the Town Code or any other applicable law, rule or regulation." (Section 196-9B)

What about Outdoor Wood Boiling Devices? (OWDs)

- An OWD is "...A device located outside a residential or commercial building it serves, designed to transfer heat, via liquid, through the burning of wood to heat indoor spaces, swimming pools, hot tubs or other hot water used. Outdoor wood burning devices do not include fire pits or wood fired barbecues". (Section 196-2)
- According to the Office of the Attorney General, OWDs "...may be among the dirtiest and least economical modes of heating...OWDs do not have to meet safety or performance standards."
- OWDs are considered hazardous by the State of New York

When is it unlawful to use OWD's?

- Outdoor wood boiling devices shall only be operated between October first through April fifteenth.
- An outdoor wood boiling device shall not be operated within two hundred fifty feet from the occupied building of a hospital, school, daycare center or nursing home or from the boundary of a municipal park or recreational area (Section 196-9)

How will the Town of Huntington wood burning legislation improve the practice of wood burning?

The enactment of this code will give the inspectors of the Department of Public Safety the ability to educate the public in properly using wood and coal burning devices and to respond to complaints regarding illegal uses in a timely and efficient manner.